

(Rept. No. 108-54) on the resolution (H. Res. 168) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 743) to amend the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional safeguards for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries with representative payees, to enhance program protections, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

**MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME
CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 735,
POSTAL CIVIL SERVICE RETIRE-
MENT SYSTEM FUNDING RE-
FORM ACT OF 2003**

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time for the Speaker, as though pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of H.R. 735, and that consideration of the bill proceed according to the following order:

The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with.

All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform.

After general debate, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Government Reform now printed in the bill.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived.

No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except the following amendments, which may be offered only in the order specified, may be offered only by the Member designated or his designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole: (1) the amendment numbered 1 in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by Representative WAXMAN of California; and, (2) the amendment numbered 2 in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by Representative TOM DAVIS of Virginia.

All points of order against such amendments are waived.

At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment, the Committee

shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be ordered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

**MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME
CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 522,
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE
REFORM ACT OF 2003**

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time for the Speaker, as though pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House for the state of the Union for consideration of H.R. 522, and that consideration of the bill proceed according to the following order:

The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with.

All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services.

After general debate, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived.

No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except the following amendments printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD pursuant to clause 8 of rule XVIII, which may be offered only in the order specified, may be offered only by the Member designated or his designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole: (1) by Representative OSE of California; and, (2) by Representative ROHRBACHER of California.

All points of order against such amendments are waived.

At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment, the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

**PUT VETERANS BENEFITS FUNDS
BACK IN THE BUDGET**

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, the leadership of the House of Representatives narrowly passed a budget resolution on March 20 that would severely cut veterans benefits, including health care, disability compensation, pensions, and other benefits.

Now, 211 of my colleagues and I opposed this budget resolution and many of us voted instead for an alternative budget resolution preferred by the American Legion and other veterans groups that would have increased veterans benefits. I am sad to say it did not pass.

Now today, the majority party voted for a motion to instruct conferees presented by the Democrats. I must question the seriousness of this vote. Maybe it is April Fool's Day, but cutting veterans benefits does not seem very funny to me.

How can Congress even consider cutting veterans benefits during a time of war?

I must question the seriousness of it because only a week ago when my Republican friend and colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, expressed his own outrage at the leadership's budget proposal, he was severely rebuked by his own party. Now, no American should be rebuked for standing up for veterans.

The promise that the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) got and this motion to instruct today should not have been necessary. It should have been in the original budget resolution that the veterans were looked after, that their disability payments would be taken care of. Certainly at a time of war and great sacrifice by our Nation's armed services, we cannot let these cuts stand.